

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, CY, PEPR

SUBJECT: UN SECRETARIAT VIEWS ON NEXT STEPS IN THE CYPRUS SITUATION

1. MISOFFS DISCUSSED CYPRUS SCENE WITH GEORGE SHERRY OF THE UN SECRETARIAT ON AUGUST 18 AND AGAIN BRIEFLY ON AUGUST 21. SHERRY SAID IT WAS HIS IMPRESSION FROM DISCUSSIONS WITH CYPRUS UN MISSION AND REPORTS FROM GALINDO POHL THAT GOC AT PRESENT WANTS TO PURSUE TWO TRACK POLICY -- I.E., TO GO TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL NEXT MONTH AND TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE TURKS REGARDING VAROSHA. (WE NOTE THAT THIS DOVETAILS WITH THE EMBASSY NICOSIA'S REPORT OF RECENT CONVERSATION WITH FM ROLANDIS.)

2. SHERRY RECOUNTED GIST OF DISCUSSION HE HAD WITH GOC CHARGE (STEPHANIDES -- NUMBER THREE AT THE MISSION) ON AUGUST 17. STEPHANIDES HAD EMPHASIZED THAT GREEK CYPRIOTS REMAIN INTERESTED IN THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S INITIATIVE ON VAROSHA/FARRA-
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GUSTA. AT SAME TIME GOC WAS STILL CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY OF TAKING THE CYPRUS QUESTION TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL. THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WILL BE DISCUSSING THESE TWO OPTIONS ON KYPRIANOU'S RETURN TO NICOSIA ON AUGUST 21. SHERRY SAID HE ARGUED STRONGLY THAT IT WAS NOT IN GOC INTEREST TO GO TO THE COUNCIL FOR TWO REASONS: A) THE

COUNCIL WOULD NOT SUPPORT THE GREEK CYPRIOT POSITION, AS REFLECTED IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS, AND INSTEAD WOULD PROBABLY URGE THE PARTIES TO RESUME THEIR NEGOTIATIONS ON THE BASIS OF THE MAKARIOS/DENKTASH GUIDELINES AND B) A DEBATE IN THE COUNCIL, WHICH INEVITABLY WOULD BE HEATED AND POLEMICAL, WOULD MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE TWO SIDES TO ENTER INTO QUIET NEGOTIATIONS ON VAROSHA. AT THE SAME TIME, SHERRY SAID HE HAD MADE IT CLEAR TO STEPHANIDES THAT WALDHEIM WOULD CONSULT FULLY WITH BOTH SIDES BEFORE TAKING ANY STEP TO CONVENE TALKS ON VAROSHA. SHERRY ALSO EMPHASIZED SAME POINT TO US.

3. SHERRY GAVE CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC ASSESSMENT THAT, WITH LIFTING OF EMBARGO AND APPARENT WILLINGNESS OF GOC TO PROCEED TO DISCUSS VAROSHA, THERE WAS REASONABLE PROSPECT OF WORKING OUT GREEK/TURKISH DIFFERENCES ON VAROSHA IF AGREEMENT WOULD BE REACHED ON TERMS FOR STARTING THE NEGOTIATIONS. HE SAID UN HAS MADE CLEAR THAT UN COULD NOT BE PARTY TO ANY ARRANGEMENT BY WHICH DENKTASH COULD STIPULATE IN ADVANCE THAT, IF ANYTHING WENT WRONG GREEKS WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE AGAIN OR STAY UNDER TURKISH ADMINISTRATION.

4. SHERRY INFORMED US THAT HE PLANS TO MEET THIS WEEK WITH GOC PRESS SPOKESMAN CHRISTODOULOU WHO IS CONFIDENTIAL

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COMING TO NEW YORK ON AN UNSPECIFIED MISSION. WE INTEND TO DISCUSS CYPRUS SCENE ON AUGUST 24 WITH GOC DEPUTY PERMREP JACOVIDES, WHO IS RETURNING FROM VACATION AND CONSULTATIONS IN NICOSIA.

5. COMMENT: ASSUMING THAT KYPRIANOU REMAINS INTERESTED IN ASKING FOR A SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING IN SEPTEMBER (PRESUMABLY WHILE HE IS IN NEW YORK FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEBATE), WE BELIEVE THAT BEST PROSPECT FOR DISUADING HIM FROM PURSUING THIS COURSE DEPENDS ON FINDING SOME WAY TO ENGAGE GREEK CYPRIOTS AND TURKS IN ACTUAL DISCUSSIONS ON VAROSHA OR AT LEAST PREPARATORY PHASE FOR THESE DISCUSSIONS. MOREOVER, WE BELIEVE ADDRESSEES SHOULD COME DOWN HARD WITH GOC AND GOG ON NEGATIVE IMPACT WHICH SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE IS LIKELY TO HAVE ON PROSPECTS FOR DISCUSSIONS ON VAROSHA AND RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS. IF GREEK CYPRIOTS INDEED ARE SERIOUS ABOUT SYG INITIATIVE ON VAROSHA, THEY WILL HAVE TO UNDERSTAND IMPOSSIBILITY OF TRYING TO PURSUE TWO-TRACK APPROACH. WE WILL BE MAKING THIS POINT WITH JACOVIDES. LEONARD

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